FINAL

DAILY BUGLE

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INSIDE: CLOAK SPOTTED WITHOUT DAGGER; NIGHT NURSE SEES AN INCREASED NUMBER OF MINOR VILLAINS WITH MAJOR BRUISING; AN AVENGERS MOVIE?

DAREDEVIL BACK IN NYC!
PICTURED HERE HOLDING UP TRAFFIC ON THE WEST SIDE HIGHWAY AS HE BATTLES AN ECHO OF KLAW, MASTER OF SOUND.
PHOTO BY GALE WINSLADE

CONSULTING COUNSELORS

MATT MURDOCK AND FOGGY NELSON, OF THE LAW FIRM NELSON & MURDOCK, HAVE GONE FROM TRYING CASES THEMSELVES TO TEACHING PEOPLE HOW TO REPRESENT THEMSELVES. COULD THIS BE BECAUSE MATT MURDOCK CAN'T SET FOOT IN A COURTROOM WITHOUT THE TRIAL BEING TAKEN OVER BY RUMORS THAT THIS BLIND LAWYER IS, IN FACT, DAREDEVIL?

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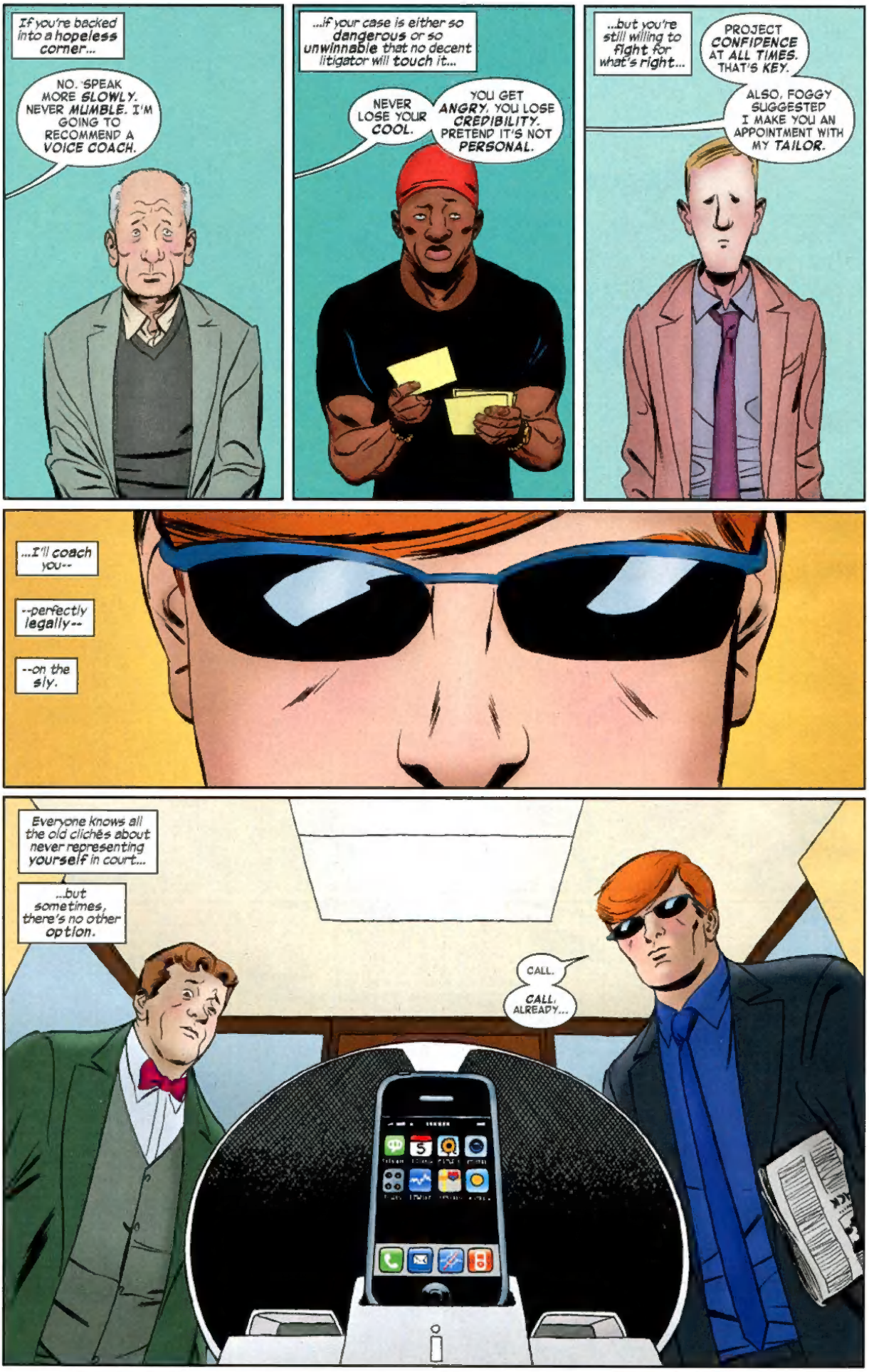
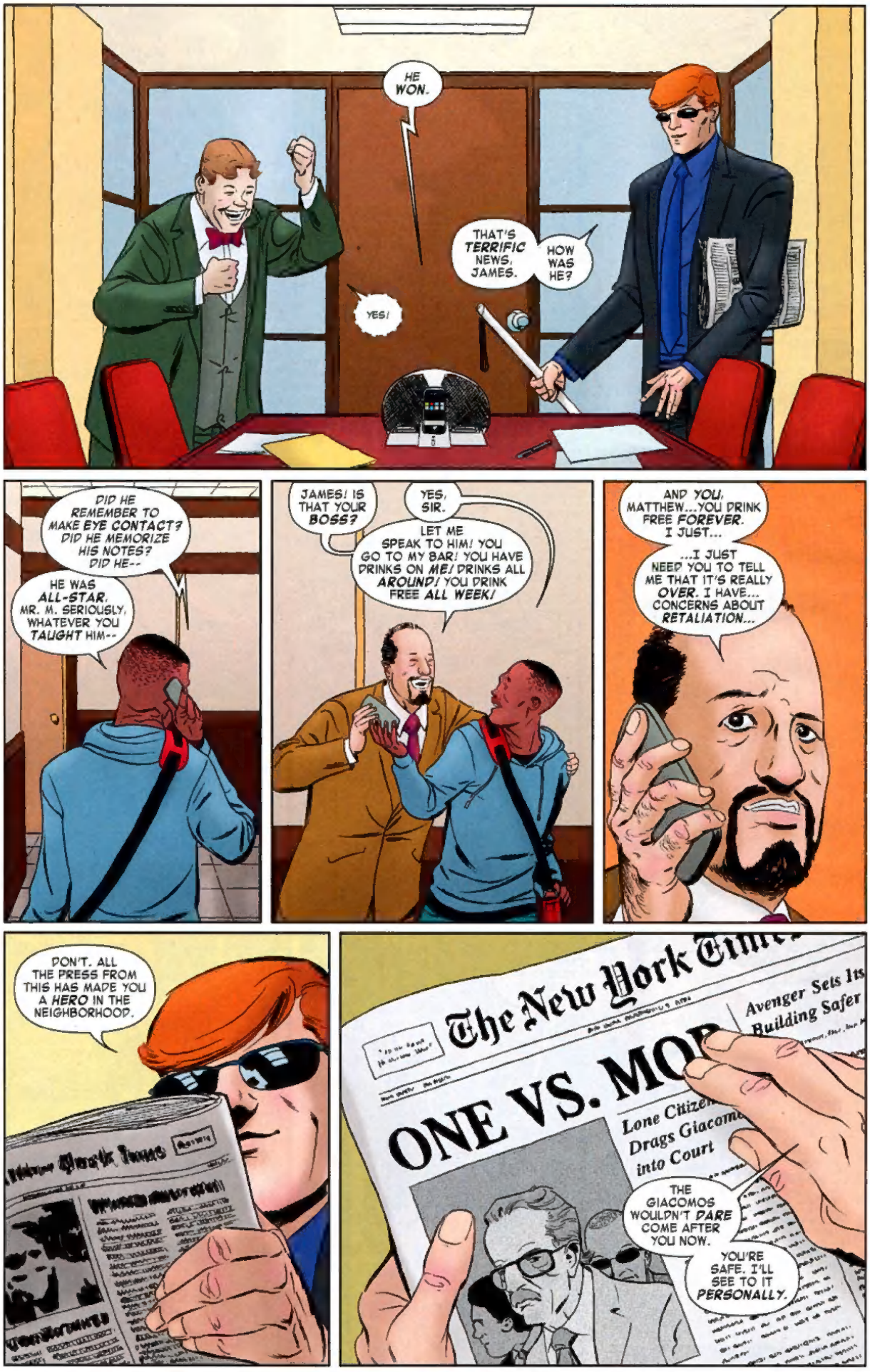
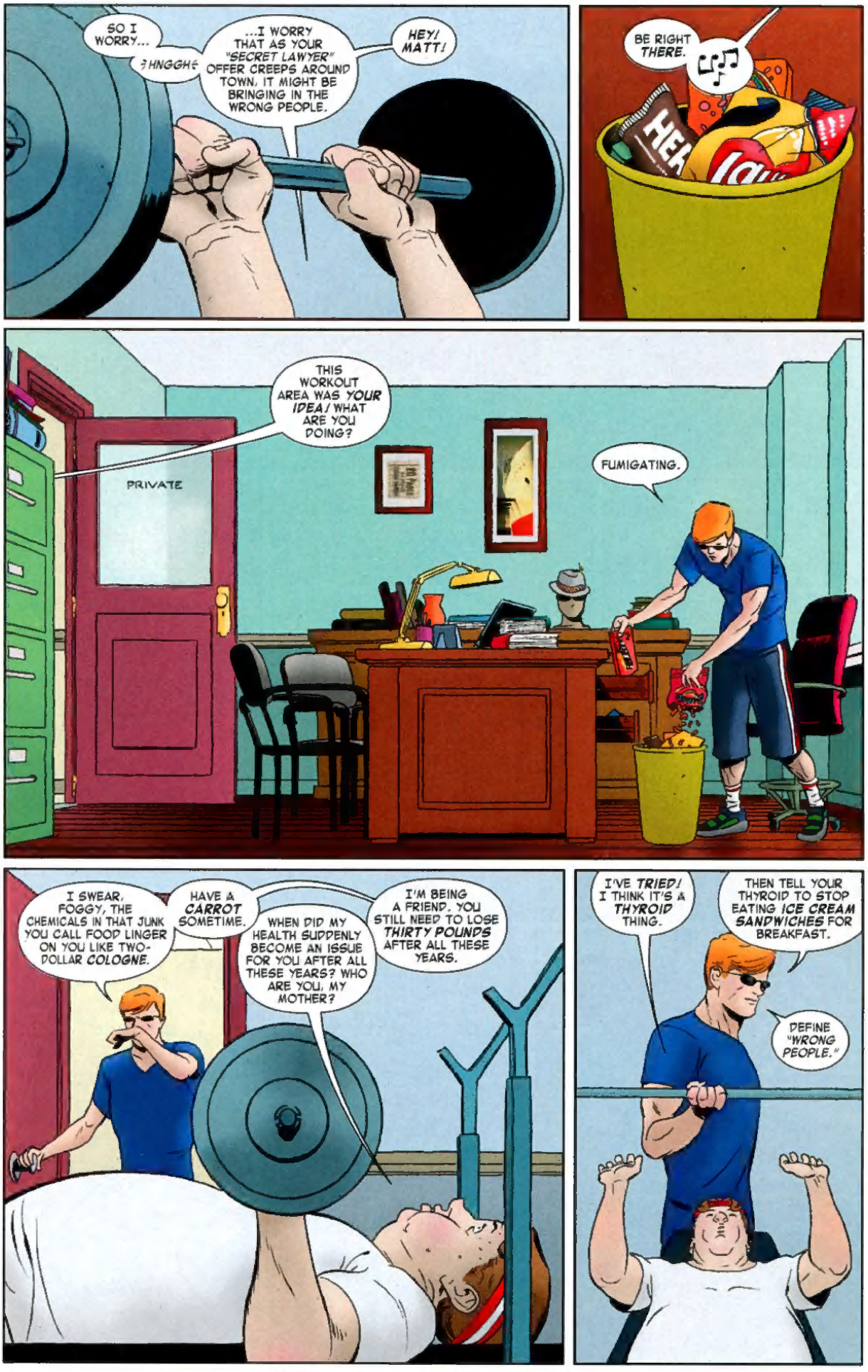
The lion cage at the Bronx Zoo.


If you're backed into a hopeless corner...
NO. SPEAK MORE SLOWLY. NEVER MUMBLE. I'M GOING TO RECOMMEND A VOICE COACH.
...if your case is either so dangerous or so unwinnable that no decent litigator will touch it...
NEVER LOSE YOUR COOL.
YOU GET ANGRY, YOU LOSE CREDIBILITY. PRETEND IT'S NOT PERSONAL.
...but you're still willing to fight for what's right...
PROJECT CONFIDENCE AT ALL TIMES. THAT'S KEY.
ALSO, FOGGY SUGGESTED I MAKE YOU AN APPOINTMENT WITH MY TAILOR.
...I'll coach you--
--perfectly legally--
--on the sly.
Everyone knows all the old clichés about never representing yourself in court...
...but sometimes, there's no other option.
CALL.
CALL, ALREADY...

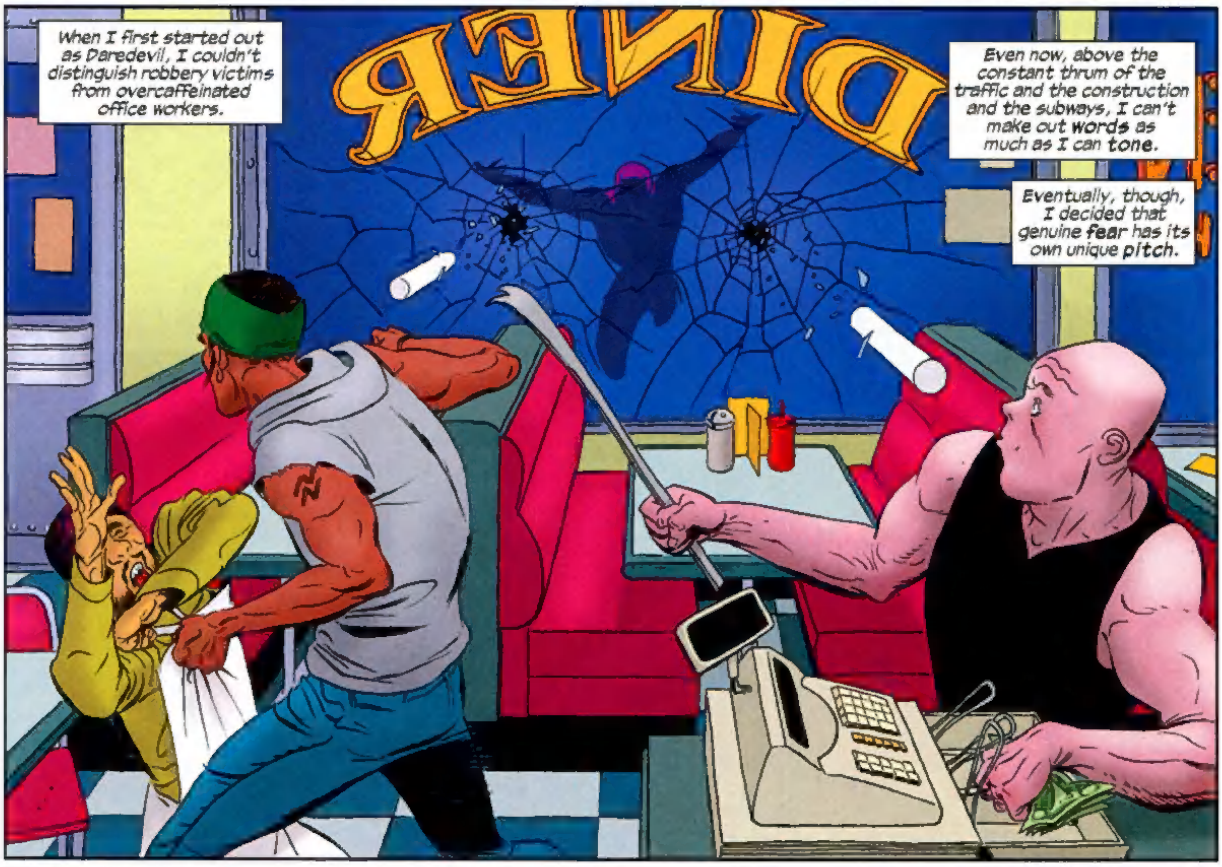

HE WON.
YES!
THAT'S TERRIFIC NEWS, JAMES.
HOW WAS HE?
DID HE REMEMBER TO MAKE EYE CONTACT? DID HE MEMORIZE HIS NOTES? DID HE--
HE WAS ALL-STAR, MR. M. SERIOUSLY, WHATEVER YOU TAUGHT HIM--
JAMES! IS THAT YOUR BOSS?
YES, SIR.
LET ME SPEAK TO HIM! YOU GO TO MY BAR! YOU HAVE DRINKS ON ME! DRINKS ALL AROUND! YOU DRINK FREE ALL WEEK!
AND YOU, MATTHEW...YOU DRINK FREE FOREVER. I JUST...
...I JUST NEED YOU TO TELL ME THAT IT'S REALLY OVER. I HAVE... CONCERNS ABOUT RETALIATION...
DON'T. ALL THE PRESS FROM THIS HAS MADE YOU A HERO IN THE NEIGHBORHOOD.
The New York Time
Avenger Sets Its Building Safer
ONE VS. MO
Lone Citize
Drags Giacom
into Court
THE GIACOMOS WOULDN'T DARE COME AFTER YOU NOW.
YOU'RE SAFE. I'LL SEE TO IT PERSONALLY.

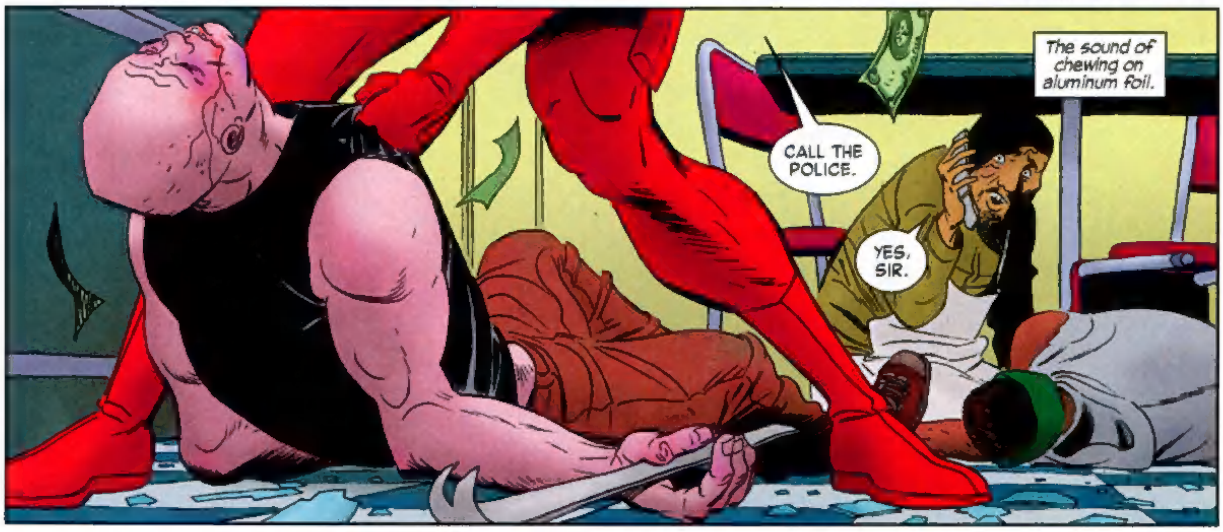

SO I WORRY...
HNGGH
...I WORRY THAT AS YOUR "SECRET LAWYER" OFFER CREEPS AROUND TOWN, IT MIGHT BE BRINGING IN THE WRONG PEOPLE.
HEY! MATT!
BE RIGHT THERE.
PRIVATE
THIS WORKOUT AREA WAS YOUR IDEA! WHAT ARE YOU DOING?
FUMIGATING.
I SWEAR, FOGGY, THE CHEMICALS IN THAT JUNK YOU CALL FOOD LINGER ON YOU LIKE TWO-DOLLAR COLOGNE.
HAVE A CARROT SOMETIME.
WHEN DID MY HEALTH SUDDENLY BECOME AN ISSUE FOR YOU AFTER ALL THESE YEARS? WHO ARE YOU, MY MOTHER?
I'M BEING A FRIEND. YOU STILL NEED TO LOSE THIRTY POUNDS AFTER ALL THESE YEARS.
I'VE TRIED! I THINK IT'S A THYROID THING.
THEN TELL YOUR THYROID TO STOP EATING ICE CREAM SANDWICHES FOR BREAKFAST.
DEFINE "WRONG PEOPLE."

FRIVOLOUS SUITS. FOLKS WANTING A MILLION DOLLARS BECAUSE THEY GOT A BAD HAIRCUT.
OR BECAUSE THEY'RE CONVINCED THAT ALIENS STOLE THEIR IDEA FOR PERPETUAL MOTION.
SCREENING'S BECOMING A FULL-TIME JOB.
MY FAVORITE IS THE GUY WHO WANTS TO SUE A CEMETERY BECAUSE HE CLAIMS HIS MOTHER'S GRAVE SANK TWO INCHES OVERNIGHT.
SO YOU WANT ME TO CALL THIS OFF?
NOT YET. THERE IS ONE KID WHO WALKED IN WITH SOMETHING I THOUGHT YOU MIGHT FIND INTRIGUING.
A WRONGFUL-TERMINATION CASE.
DID HE HAVE AN EMPLOYMENT CONTRACT?
NOT EVEN IMPLIED.
THEN YOU'RE KIDDING ME. THOSE ARE THE DOGGIEST OF THE DOG CASES. NO ONE TAKES THOSE. YOU KNOW THAT!
I KNOW THAT.
NEW YORK'S AN AT-WILL STATE. EMPLOYERS CAN LEGALLY HIRE AND FIRE FOR NO REASON.
AS IN UNION LABOR V. VANCE REDWOOD LUMBER, 1910.
I KNEW THAT!
NO, YOU DIDN'T.
WHATEVER. SO WHY ON EARTH WOULD YOU THINK I'D BE INTERESTED IN THIS CASE?
BECAUSE THE KID SUING IS BLIND.

--than the calls start coming in.

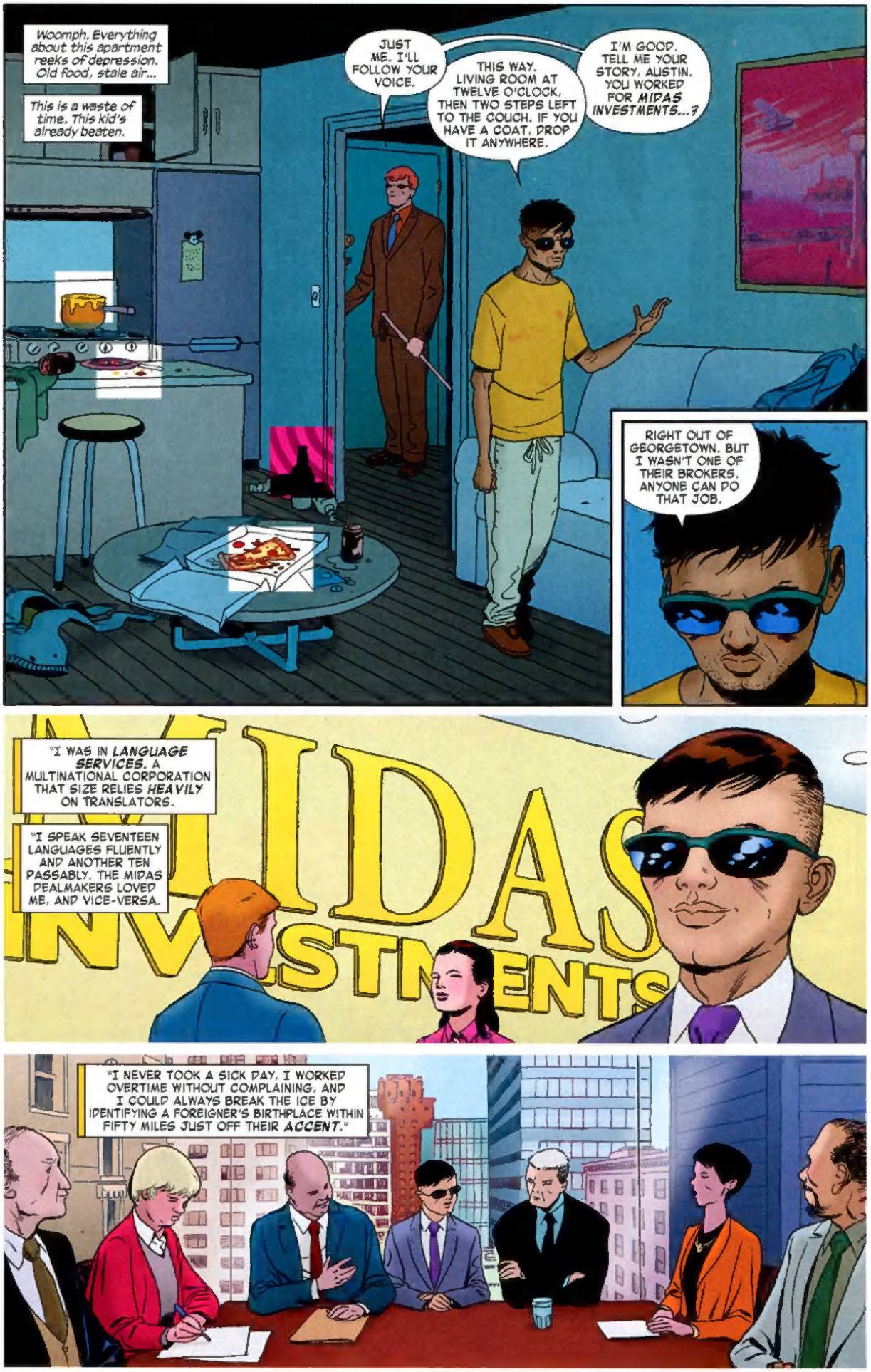
Cries for help from every direction.
NO
PLEASE HELP
PLEASE

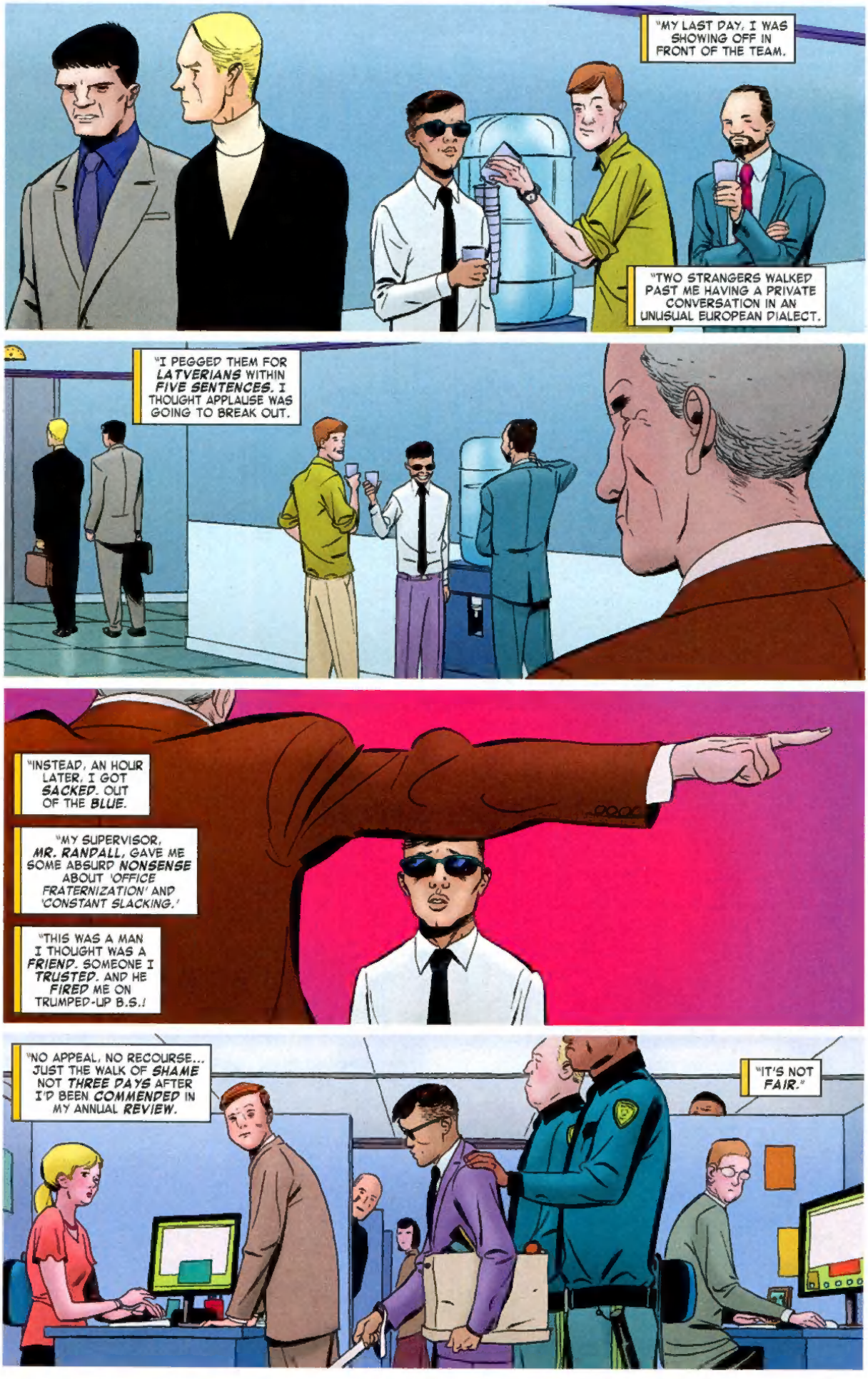

When I first started out as Daredevil, I couldn't distinguish robbery victims from overcaffeinated office workers.
DINER
Even now, above the constant thrum of the traffic and the construction and the subways, I can't make out words as much as I can tone.
Eventually, though, I decided that genuine fear has its own unique pitch.


The sound of chewing on aluminum foil.
CALL THE POLICE.
YES, SIR.

For me, moving through New York City is like navigating through the world's largest emergency room.
SNFF
SMOKE.
Some problems, I can punch.
Others...
Radar sense gives me a feel for solid objects.
And sometimes, there's nothing solid underfoot.
HELP
MAMA?
MAMAAAA!

MA'AM--
LET ME GO! MY BABIES ARE IN THERE!
MA'AM, IT'S TOO DANGEROUS--!
Sometimes I wish there were five of me. Or ten. Or twenty.
But I do what I can.
Wherever I can.


Woomph. Everything about this apartment reeks of depression. Old food, stale air...
This is a waste of time. This kid's already beaten.
JUST ME. I'LL FOLLOW YOUR VOICE.
THIS WAY. LIVING ROOM AT TWELVE O'CLOCK, THEN TWO STEPS LEFT TO THE COUCH. IF YOU HAVE A COAT, DROP IT ANYWHERE.
I'M GOOD. TELL ME YOUR STORY, AUSTIN. YOU WORKED FOR MIDAS INVESTMENTS...?
RIGHT OUT OF GEORGETOWN. BUT I WASN'T ONE OF THEIR BROKERS. ANYONE CAN DO THAT JOB.
"I WAS IN LANGUAGE SERVICES. A MULTINATIONAL CORPORATION THAT SIZE RELIES HEAVILY ON TRANSLATORS.
"I SPEAK SEVENTEEN LANGUAGES FLUENTLY AND ANOTHER TEN PASSABLY. THE MIDAS DEALMAKERS LOVED ME, AND VICE-VERSA.
MIDAS
INVESTMENTS
"I NEVER TOOK A SICK DAY, I WORKED OVERTIME WITHOUT COMPLAINING, AND I COULD ALWAYS BREAK THE ICE BY IDENTIFYING A FOREIGNER'S BIRTHPLACE WITHIN FIFTY MILES JUST OFF THEIR ACCENT."


"MY LAST DAY, I WAS SHOWING OFF IN FRONT OF THE TEAM.
"TWO STRANGERS WALKED PAST ME HAVING A PRIVATE CONVERSATION IN AN UNUSUAL EUROPEAN DIALECT.
"I PEGGED THEM FOR *LATVERIANS* WITHIN *FIVE SENTENCES*. I THOUGHT APPLAUSE WAS GOING TO BREAK OUT.
"INSTEAD, AN HOUR LATER, I GOT *SACKED*. OUT OF THE *BLUE*.
"MY SUPERVISOR, *MR. RANDALL*, GAVE ME SOME ABSURD *NONSENSE* ABOUT *'OFFICE FRATERNIZATION'* AND *'CONSTANT SLACKING.'*
"THIS WAS A MAN I THOUGHT WAS A *FRIEND*. SOMEONE I *TRUSTED*. AND HE *FIRED* ME ON TRUMPED-UP B.S.!
"NO APPEAL, NO RECOURSE... JUST THE WALK OF *SHAME* NOT *THREE DAYS* AFTER I'D BEEN *COMMENDED* IN MY ANNUAL *REVIEW*.
"IT'S NOT *FAIR*."

LETTERS WITHOUT FEAR

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With this issue, we welcome back Marcos Martin and Muntsa Vicente to the art chores. We haven't seen this dynamically drawin' duo since issue #1's stellar backup story.

If you've just finished this issue's story before turning to this letter column (which I assume you did. I mean what kind of weirdo reads a letter column first? Freaks.), you should go back and take another look at each page of art in this comic. There are details and bits of acting throughout that are easily missed on a first read. We know that in this day-and-age, value for your comic dollar is incredibly important, so Marcos (along with co-artist Paolo Rivera) make sure and fill each page with as many bits of business as possible without detracting from the story.

Now let's get to more of your missives!

Dear Team DD,

Fresh, crisp and right on the money... and that's only the writing!

This new take on Daredevil gives me what I've been crying out for from DD for years. Sure, he's had a lot of pain and he's been through a lot, but this feels like the Daredevil that's been trying to break out of that dark, musty shell and has finally found his way into the light. He's faced the toughest everyone has to throw at him and he's survived – and he's the stronger for it. Mark Waid's pitch is right on the money with my take on Matt – what's the next logical step after years of beating him down both emotionally and physically? Build him up! Let's see what happens in Hell's Kitchen when Matt is allowed room to grow.

What does the rest of the Marvel U think of this change? I'm eager to find out. And with Paolo Rivera AND Marcos Martin aboard could it look any more gorgeous? This new visual style of showing DD's powers just sucks me right in and flows around Waid's words in an almost intuitive way – it's like I'm smelling the Clive Christian perfume myself, hearing the creak of the chairs, feeling the rush of air as I take that confident leap off the edge of the building...I AM Daredevil in this incarnation...and that's the point, right?

I can't end this love letter without mentioning DD's billy club/cane. On a second, or even third, read it's like this thing is another character in the book. The way DD seems to always be in control of it but at the same time it's never in the way. It's an extension of him. The panels where he's not even holding it – but it's kind of floating beside him as he completes a maneuver – are brilliant...it completes the illusion that I'm not reading a comic book, but actually watching him perform these dazzling displays.

My favorite image or panel from the book has to be when DD swoops in and kisses the bride. I've always seen DD as kind of a dashing swashbuckler and this is captured perfectly in this scene. In this one image he is simultaneously saving the child, angering the groom, kissing the bride and going back to grab the Spot...how the club is used to raise the veil just enough for him to steal a kiss is just the icing on the cake. This panel on its own, I feel, completely encapsulates the mood of the new direction. And I love it.

Thanks for giving me the opportunity to vent...or maybe gush is the appropriate term?

So until Matt...who am I kidding? I'm not going anywhere.

Lee Self
London, UK

Hey guys,

I just wanted to say you knocked it out of the park with this new Daredevil series. I've never really read him. I've just collected a few issues here and there but since I heard all the praise for this issue and it practically just came out I had to pick it up.

And, wow, I'm glad I did. The story is great as well as the interaction between the characters. Mark Waid does a fantastic job at making me feel what Matt/DD is feeling. And the artwork is to die for! Paolo Rivera does a great job. Seriously fantastic. And that grin that DD had while fighting the Spot was amazing. As well as the stolen kiss scene. Just wow!

And the Marcos Martin drawn story...I seriously loved. But I have a question. During the part where Matt and Foggy are walking through NY where you see the FedEx truck. The song that the man is listening to is that Bruce Springsteen's Thunder Road?! If so, that's amazing! I love the Boss and that's my favorite song of his! Great issue, guys

I cannot wait to see more. Because of this issue I went to the back issues and got everything that led up to this! Thanks guys for another fantastic Marvel book to pick up!

Joe R.

Joe, that was indeed a nod to 'the Boss'! True story: when the slovenly Spaniard visited New York earlier in the year with Muntsa, he and I spent a car trip singing "Thunder Road" at the top of our lungs. Poor Muntsa had to sit quietly through the entire, horrible five minute ordeal.

Fortunately, Waid wasn't there to critique our singing because—as he is quick to always remind everyone he comes across—he has a beautiful singing voice.

While we have received truckloads of e-mails praising the book, not everyone was so thrilled with our new Daredevil launch.

Dear Marvel,

The cover, hideous. This issue never looked right for me! And once The Spot took a powder? Samo, samo, as the kids say.

And how is it, and why is it, that Matt would go back to same old, same old after the groundbreaking "Shadowland" AND "Daredevil Reborn," hmm? Especially considering that Black Panther is still in Hell's Kitchen...somewhere...not that you happened to mention that. I gotta level with ya, this latest relaunch is dead in the water; the whole thing looked like it took place in Spain. Spain!

And two stories? For a #1 issue?? I really hated it. A skim-read at very best.

Andrew J. Shaw

Sorry we lost you, Andrew (though, I must say, the "Spain criticism" is one of the weirdest I've ever read.)

There were two stories in the first issue because the Daredevil crew is committed to making every issue worth more than you're paying for it. You can ignore it if ya want.

The issue of Matt and the larger Marvel Universe has already started to get answered, so you may just be a bit impatient.

As to the other stuff, I'm obviously biased...what do you folks in letter-land think? Is Andrew onto something?

Let us know.

We're going to wrap it up here. Thanks again to all of you for reading.

See you in 30 days!

Viva Navy Seals!
Stephen Wacker
8/25/11

NEXT ISSUE

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